



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/069,100	10/21/2002	Martin Philip Usher	11696.0054	1690
7590	12/12/2007			
Stuart T F Huang Steptoe & Johnson Box PTO 1330 Connecticut Avenue N W Washington, DC 20036			EXAMINER DOAN, KIET M	
			ART UNIT 2617	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 12/12/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

---

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES**

Application Number: 10/069,100  
Filing Date: October 21, 2002  
Appellant(s): USHER ET AL.

**MAILED**

**DEC 12 2007**

*Technology Center 2600*

---

Scott D. Watkins  
For Appellant

**EXAMINER'S ANSWER**

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 10/17/2007 appealing from the Office action mailed 05/30/2006.

**(1) Real Party in Interest**

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

**(2) Related Appeals and Interferences**

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

**(3) Status of Claims**

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

**(4) Status of Amendments After Final**

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

**(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter**

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

**(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal**

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

**(7) Claims Appendix**

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

**(8) Evidence Relied Upon**

6,314,286	Zicker	10-1999
6,633,636	McConnell et al.	05-1999

**(9) Grounds of Rejection**

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claim 9-10, 12-13, 15 and 16** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zicker (Patent No. 6,314,286) in view of McConnell et al. (Patent No. 6,633,636)

Consider **claims 9, 13 and 16**. Zicker teaches a method for facilitating telephone traffic between a fixed cellular network and a movable network (C4, L28-38, Fig.1, Illustrate ground station No.36 as fixed cellular network and No.30 as movable network aboard a vehicle), comprising: configuring a ground-based host node to forward incoming calls from the fixed cellular network to the a plurality of users through the moveable network, and to forward outgoing calls from the plurality of users (C3, L57-67, C4, L1-58 teach the ground station provide communication to subscriber/users and further cited in C9, L55-64 as Fig.2 Illustrate No.50 as plurality of users). Zicker teaches the limitation of claim as discuss **but silent on simultaneously suspending**, in response to a control signal, forwarding incoming calls to the plurality of users;

wherein said suspending forwarding incoming calls does not disconnect a call in progress between any of the plurality of users and the fixed network.

In an analogous art, McConnell teaches "Integrated wireless and private branch exchange communication network". Further, **McConnell teaches simultaneously** suspending, in response to a control signal, forwarding incoming calls to the plurality of users; wherein said suspending forwarding incoming calls does not disconnect a call in progress between any of the plurality of users and the fixed network (C2, L40-56, C7, L7-41, Fig.4, Illustrate steps of receiving (incoming call) wherein suspend and forwarding call to users).

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time that the invention was made that person having ordinary skill in the art to modify Zicker and McConnell system, such that telephone traffic between a fixed cellular network and a movable network aboard a vehicle and simultaneously suspend, forward incoming calls to the a user through the moveable network without disconnect call, to provide means for secure call and uninterrupted communication in moving traffic.

Consider **claim 10**. McConnell teaches the method wherein said configuring comprises registering routing information for a telecommunications device associated with the each of the plurality of users aboard the vehicle (C4, L65-67, C5, L1-35, Fig.2, Illustrate HLR that containing subscriber data base wherein registering routing information for a telecommunications device).

Consider **claims 12 and 15**. McConnell teaches the method wherein said suspending incoming calls comprise de-registering the routing information (C5, L25-48, teach HLR wherein can be register/de-register the routing information).

**(10) Response to Argument**

Accordingly to the argument in appeal brief. The office withdrawn the rejection of claims 9 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

In response to appellant's argument in claims 9 and 13 that reference of Zicker and McConnell fail to teach the simultaneous suspension of all incoming calls to a plurality of users.

Examiner respectfully disagrees, as in Zicker reference did teach most of limitation of claim such as ground station forwarding incoming calls to plurality of users through the moveable network, see Fig.1 described and Illustrate ground station 36 forwarding/transceiver signals to moveable network No.20 wherein the moveable network No.20 contain plurality of users No.50 see Fig.2. Further, to clarify and make more clear that in Zicker teaches suspension all incoming calls, see column 12, lines 50-57, Fig.11, Illustrate the cellular net work 30 as in step 134 to 136 that when cellular net work not inactive mode, (for example: during critical phrase of flight profile such as take-off, landing and taxi or during the vehicle instrument communicating with flight controller and to prevent interference) the cellular net work 30 will block all calls and keep the remains active set in busy for an extended period this method also would read on suspending forwarding calls does not disconnected a call in progress between any of the plurality of users and the fix network.

Further, examiner bring in McConnell reference to clarify simultaneously suspension, in response to the control signal (see, C2, L23-26, L38-55 teach the private telecommunication system contain **instruction program** as read on control signal that

when an incoming call is received, the private telecommunication system suspended call and base on the control signal/programming to control the routing, handling of calls).

Regarding claims 10, 12 and 15 depend from claim 9, examiner maintain the rejection.

In response to appellant's argument in claim 16 that reference fail to teach the feature which recited similar limitation "sending a control signal representing a request for the ground-base network to discontinue forwarding incoming calls to the vehicle".

Examiner respectfully disagrees, Zicker teaches "sending a control signal representing a request for the ground-base network to discontinue forwarding incoming calls to the vehicle" see column 4, lines 28-58 teach the communication from aircraft 20 and ground base station 36 and further see on column 12, lines 50-57, Fig.11, Illustrate the cellular net work 30 as in step 134 to 136 that when cellular net work not inactive mode for example: during critical phrase of flight profile such as take-off, landing and taxi or during the vehicle/aircraft instrument communicating with flight controller and to prevent interference the cellular net work 30 will block all calls that is, which means that all calls is discontinue forwarding incoming calls to the vehicle/aircraft.

#### **(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix**

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

Application/Control Number:  
10/069,100  
Art Unit: 2617

Page 8

Conferees:



Kiet Doan

Joseph Fields



JOSEPH FEILD  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

George Eng



GEORGE ENG  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER